

Message Text

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SUBJ: REACTION TO STAVROPOULOS INTERVIEW

REF: NICOSIA 0206 (DTG 221100 JAN 76)

1. JANUARY 19 "UNOFFICIAL BRIEFING" OF GREEK FOREIGN UNDER SECRETARY STAVROPOULOS HAS ELICITED CAUTIOUS FAVORABLE COMMENT FROM TURK CYPRIOT SPOKESMAN, WHO AGREED WITH OBSERVATION THAT, GIVEN THE EXISTENCE OF TWO REGIONS IN CYPRUS, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO AVOID A BIZONAL SOLUTION. IF MAKARIOS ALSO LOOKED AT THE MAP, SPOKESMAN ADDED, HE WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT IT WOULD BE A WASTE OF TIME TO DISCUSS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A BI-REGIONAL SYSTEM. SPOKESMAN ALSO SAID THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF CONCESSIONS, ONLY OF BORDER ADJUSTMENTS; THAT RETURN OF GREEK REFUGEES WOULD DISPLACE 60,000 TURK CYPRIOTS FOR THE THIRD TIME AND WAS THEREFORE UNACCEPTABLE; AND THAT MOST REALISTIC APPROACH TO
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REFUGEE PROBLEM WOULD BE THE IMMEDIATE REHABILITATION

IN THE SOUTH OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT DISPLACED PERSONS.

2. GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS HAS PROMINENTLY CARRIED SHARPLY CRITICAL REACTIONS OF CENTRE UNION-NEW FORCES PARTY LEADER MAVROS AND PANHELLENIC SOCIALIST PARTY LEADER PAPANDREOU. MAVROS IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT ILLEGAL MILITARY OCCUPATION OF PART OF CYPRUS BY TURKEY CAN IN NO WAY FORM BASIS FOR SOLUTION AND THAT BIREGIONAL FEDERATION IS NOT A SOLUTION BUT PARTITION. PAPANDREOU IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT STABROPOULOS' STATEMENTS CONSTITUTES "A MONUMENT TO NATIONAL TREACHERY."

3. REFERRING TO MAVROS AND PAPANDREOU REMARKS, LYSSARIDES' TA NEA DEEMS NEGATIVE REACTION OF "POLITICAL WORLD OF GREECE" TO STAVROPOULOS STATEMENT "USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE." BY NOT HOPING FOR AN EARLY SOLUTION AND BY OPPOSING LEGALIZATION OF THE OCCUPATION THROUGH A DEFEATISH STAND, POLITICIANS IN GREECE ARE FOLLOWING A CORRECT LINE OF STRUGGLE FOR THE SALVATION OF CYPRUS. CYPRUS PROBLEM, TA NEA HARPS, IS "A DIFFICULT AFFAIR IN WHICH NEITHER FRIVOLOUS MOVES NOR ALLEGEDLY REALISTIC ASSESSMENTS CONCEALING IN REALITY DEFEATISM ARE PERMISSIBLE."

4. COMMUNIST HARAVGHI TERMS STAVROPOULOS STATEMENT "MOST UNFORTUNATE." CITING ITS "HARMFUL CONSEQUENCES" AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE ON EVE OF NEW INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. STAVROPOULOS, PAPER CHIDES, SHOULD HAVE SUPPORTED FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF UN RESOLUTIONS. PRO-MAKAGXOS ANAGENNISIS CONDEMNS BIREGIONAL SOLUTION AND PRESSURES BEING EXERTED BY THE U.S. AND NATO FOR CONCESSIONS IN CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN. RIGHT-WING MESSIMVRINI SAYS STAVROPOULOS STATEMENT REVEALS A "HARD REALITY" AND INDICATES THAT GREECE ACCEPTED BIZONAL FEDERATION AS BASIS FOR CYPRUS SOLUTION LONG AGO. IT ALSO WARNS CYPRIOTS TO HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT SOLUTION "BEING COOKED UP" AND CRITICIZES MAKARIOS FOR NOT TELLING PEOPLE WHOLE TRUTH.
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